

## Key Points from June 4, 2012 Alliance for Appalachia Meeting

- Interest in EPA taking steps to revise the fill rule.
- Concern that judicial decisions in Spruce and ECP had limited our ability to veto permits and take appropriate action under Section 404.
- Interest in individual projects
  - Buffalo Mountain – residents who live nearby
  - A&G Coal (State permit # 848-0287) – possible impacts to drinking water sources.
  - Nally & Hamilton permit
  - Ison Rock Ridge
  - Justice Companies – spill of black water from Devonian prep plant into New River
  - ICG Mine, Lester WV
  - Eskdale, WV; Dakota Road – AMD, orange water
- Concerns with Virginia's 303(d) and TMDL processes. Lower quality creek (Loony Creek) has no TMDL, but higher quality creek does (Callahan Creek). Conflicting sampling data and DMRs.
- Concerns with human health /EJ impacts
  - Streams used as drinking water sources (Floyd and Knott Counties, KY; Hindman KY city water, including photos; Lindy Creek; Lynch and Benham, KY)
  - Children bathing in contaminated water (high arsenic levels)
  - Slurry injection causing impacts (e.g., Lester WV)
  - New studies by Dr. Hendryx are underway to measure organic compounds in the water as a potential pathway for exposure to harmful chemicals as a result of mining
  - Fugitive dust (sampling done in Roda, VA; Kentucky impacts as well)
  - Psychological impacts due to intrusion on property by industry representatives, in violation of easements
- Concerns over scheduling of KY NPDES hearings during Alliance's Week in Washington; groups were not consulted on scheduling. This group will focus on Frankfort hearing, not Pikeville, to maximize the chance to be heard.
- Concerns that some KY NPDES GPs are being authorized despite being within 5 miles of a drinking water intake (which should trigger an IP)
- Concerns with overheated and divisive rhetoric on both sides of the coal issue.
- Concerns that EPA is not adequately communicating and framing its message regarding its actions and goals, such as both environmental and economic aspects
- Noted that coal jobs are increasing in Appalachia since 2009 MOU, despite the need to promote an economic transition
- Concerns about the inaugural Tennessee Local Interagency Working Group meeting -- inadequate early involvement of citizens, refusal to answer questions, poor organization,